Research Task Force on Research Standards for Chronic Low Back Pain

- NIH Pain Consortium

- Annual Scientific Meeting
- May 29, 2014
Challenge of Back Pain Research

- Major health problem affecting entire population
  - Appears to be getting worse
- Very expensive to diagnose & treat
- Large majority (> 80%) are ultimately diagnosed as “non-specific” low back pain (i.e., no specific etiology)
- Outcomes are not satisfactory to anyone
NIH Pain Consortium efforts on Back Pain Research

Workshops on Back Pain

- 2009 – Non-Pharmacological Management of Back Pain
- 2010 – Deconstructing Back Pain

Task Force for Research Standards on Low Back Pain

- 2012 – convened Task Force
Task Force Process

- Pain Consortium -> Steering Committee
  - Invited 16 scientific/clinical experts on cLBP research
    - Task Force chaired by Rick Deyo & Sam Dworkin
    - 3 face-to-face meetings over 14 months
  - Outcome
    - Recommendation for a set of Research Standards for all clinical research on cLBP
      - Definition of chronic LBP
      - Sub-classification of cLBP by impact & prognosis
      - Minimum Dataset
        - Concept framework based on NINDS Common Data Elements (CDE)
Research Standards for cLBP now published

- Task Force report available:
  - NIH Pain Consortium website (www.painconsortium.nih.gov)
- Manuscript published via multiple journals
  - *Journal of Pain*
    - Forthcoming
  - *Clinical Journal of Pain*
  - *European Spine Journal*
  - *Pain Medicine*
  - *Spine*
  - *The Spine Journal*
http://iprcc.nih.gov/